

PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT

Date: 11-23-20Report No. 1986-01214I, Detective, Kenneth Hotsenpiller #1125 of the Franklin County Sheriff's Office,

knowing that false statements on this form are punishable by law, state that the facts contained herein are true to the best of my knowledge and belief:

7-5-1986

1 I have probable cause to believe that on or about _____, Kenneth T. Avery Jr.,

DOB [REDACTED], SSN [REDACTED], committed one or more criminal offenses in Franklin County, Missouri.

2 The facts supporting this belief are as follows:

On Saturday, July 5, 1986, at approximately 7:40 PM., Mark Edwards, husband of the victim, Kristen Edwards, returned home from work at Cedar's Camp in Lebanon, Mo., and found his wife, Kristen missing. Her purse was located in their truck parked in front of the residence. Upon entering the residence, Mr. Edwards found a partially eaten meal, television on, and unfinished chores around the farm. He began searching the area and contacting relatives and friends. He eventually contacted law enforcement the next morning.

On July 8, 1986 a search of the area was setup by the Franklin County Sheriff's Office using deputies and local fire personnel. The residence that Kristen was missing from was in the 3000 block of Westwood Ln. Sullivan, Mo.

The search began around 9:30 AM. At approximately 12:30 PM., Kristen's body was located by searchers in a wooded area along a logging road/private drive, approximately 1/4 to 1/2 mile from the Edwards residence through the woods and fields. Kristen was deceased. Kristen's body was transported to the St. Louis County Medical Examiner's Office and an autopsy was performed by Dr. Mary Case. Dr. Case ruled the cause of death as ligature strangulation.

Investigators learned through an eyewitness, (LG) that the Kristen was last seen alive with Kenneth T. Avery Jr., at a cabin located on the property of the Stanley Smith family located in the area of the 3000 block of Pea Ridge Road, Leslie, Mo. LG stated that she witnessed Kristen being sexually assaulted and strangled by who she knew as Kenneth T. Avery Jr.

LG stated that upon leaving the what was known as the Smith Cabin she observed Kristen laying on a bed gray in color and motionless. Several hours later LG was taken to the area where Kristen's Body was found. She was with Kenneth T. Avery, Jr., and others. Kristen was deceased. Kristen was nude, and partially covered with sticks. LG was threatened by death not to discuss what she had witnessed.

This incident occurred in Franklin County, Missouri near the city of Leslie, Mo.

Det. Kenneth Hotsenpiller

Printed or Typed Name

Kenneth Hotsenpiller
Electronically Signed or Signature